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WEEKEND EDITION MAY 29-30, 2021

Sunday's weather

67

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Notice to readers

To reduce risks to our employees and community, the Wabash Plain Dealer is closed to the public until further notice. Payments may be mailed to Wabash Plain Dealer, P.O. Box 309, Marion, IN 46952, or called in. For news, call 260-225-4662 or email news@wabashplaindealer.com. For advertising, call 260-225-4947 or email vwilliams@h-ponline.com. For circulation and customer support, call 260-563-2131. The Wabash Plain Dealer is committed to providing the best product to its customers and appreciates the support during this time. For more local news content, please visit wabashplaindealer.com where you will find all of the news that could not fit into today's edition. Get your news faster by activating your online account which is included in your print subscription rates. Our stories appear online in an easy-to-read format as they are completed. Thank you for your support through this pandemic.

YMCA to offer summer meals

The Wabash County YMCA announced their free breakfast and lunch program for children ages 18 and under will be from 8 to 9 a.m. for breakfast and 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for lunch Mondays through Fridays, from Tuesday, June 1 to Friday, Aug. 6, 500 S. Cass St. For more information, visit www.wabashcountnymca.org or email info@wabashcountnymca.org.

Salamonie Senior Luncheon set for Tuesday, June 1

The monthly Salamonie Senior Luncheon will be held at noon on Tuesday, June 1, at the Salamonie Lake Interpretive Center at 3691 New Holland Road, Andrews. Anyone age 50 or older is welcome to attend. Advanced Master Gardner Martha Ferguson will share the importance of using native plants in place of invasive species. Ferguson recently directed the Gene Stratton-Porter State Historic Site's garden restoration project. The program begins with a carry-in meal at noon. Guests should bring a side dish to share, a beverage and their table service. A \$1 donation will be accepted. Seating is limited. Reservations may be made by calling 260-468-2127.

'Spark a new career path' with an upcoming welding certification program

Grow Wabash County has announced a welding certificate course to be offered through Ivy Tech Community College

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Cynthia Bell earns Teacher of the Year

Southwood educator honored by State Sen. Andy Zay

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Earlier this week, Southwood Jr./Sr. High School (SHS) teacher Cynthia Bell was presented with their 2021 Teacher of the Year Award.

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-Huntington, recognized Bell for the award on Tuesday, May 25, "because of her passion for education and for overcoming adversities this past school year."

Principal Andrew McDaniel said he nominated Bell for the award.

"During this unique school year, many staff members have had to pitch in and help out in new ways," said McDaniel. "Mrs. Bell exemplifies this collaborative and school-first attitude."

McDaniel said when schedule changes had to be made shortly before the beginning of the school year, Bell "voluntarily adjusted her teaching schedule to take on different subjects to better serve the needs of students."

"She sets a very high standard for her students, but she also helps students achieve

that standard," said McDaniel. "She regularly tutors students before school, during homeroom and at other times to make sure they fully understand the content."

Bell is the senior class' co-sponsor. McDaniel said Bell and the other co-sponsor were tasked with revising graduation plans and senior trip several times, "but they worked diligently to make sure our students were able to celebrate their 2020 commencement and senior trip."

"Much of the success of these initiatives is due to Mrs. Bell's meticulousness

See TEACHER, page A3



Provided photo

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-Huntington, recognized Cynthia Bell for the award on Tuesday, May 25.

A return to live singing for 5 Southwood students



Provided photo

Pictured left to right are: Lyndzy Silvers, Isaac King, Isabel Davis, Cage DuBois and Katelyn Ranck.

2021 Indiana High School All-State Honor Choir to perform Friday, June 4 in Carmel

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

The joy of performing live has been severely curtailed for students during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For example, earlier this year, the Indiana State School Music Association (ISSMA) vocal and piano solo and ensemble contest was moved to a virtual set-up.

But, despite these obstacles, a handful of Southwood Jr./Sr. High School singers will have the opportunity to participate in a "prestigious honor" next week in front of a live audience, said choral director Susan Keefer.

Keefer said five Southwood students were selected to sing in the 2021 Indiana High School All-State Honor Choir (ASHC) at 8 p.m. Friday, June 4 at the Palladium at The Center for the Performing Arts, 1 Carter

Green, Carmel.

"This choir is one of a handful of all-state groups from around the country that can perform in person," said Keefer. "Because of COVID, choral safety protocol, the 2021 ASHC auditions and concert date were delayed and the choir had to be downsized to 150 students. The program has been shortened from six to four selections because of time constraints and safety and the size of the audience has also been strictly limited. The honor choir will rehearse all day."

Keefer said the guest choral conductor for the ASHC is Dr. Jeffery Redding, the director of choral activities at the University of Central Florida and a Grammy Award-winning music educator. Redding has conducted the ACDA National High School Honor Choir, the Central Division ACDA

Honor Choir, the North Central Division ACDA Honor Choir, the Eastern Division ACDA Honor Choir and All-State and Honor choirs in approximately 40 states.

"Nationally, Redding is in demand as a guest conductor and clinician," said Keefer. "His bio is impressive."

Southwood will be represented by Katelyn Ranck, Isabel Davis, Isaac King, Cage DuBois, and Lyndzy Silvers. This is Katelyn's second year to be selected while the others are participating for the first time.

Keefer said Indiana's Area 4A, which includes Kosciusko, Wabash, Huntington, Whitley, Wells and Adams counties, was allowed a quota of eight singers to be selected, "but was lucky to have more singers chosen."

Katelyn Ranck, a sophomore, is the daughter of Brian and Sarah Ranck. This is her second year to be se-

lected for the high school ASHC. In junior high and high school, she has earned gold medals at the district and state ISSMA contests for vocal solo and vocal ensembles. She was selected to participate in the Wabash County Honor Choir for two years. She sings in the church choir and plays piano. She is a high honor roll student and actively participates in 4-H.

Isabel Davis, a senior, is the daughter of Mike and Amy Davis. This is her first year to audition and be chosen for the ASHC. She has been a member of Southwood High School choirs for three years and has earned gold medals at the ISSMA vocal solo and ensemble district and state contests with vocal entries. She has also been selected for the Wabash County Honor Choir for two years

See CHOIR, page A2

Honeywell Pool to open on a limited basis

Board votes to open Saturday to Monday; then Thursdays to Saturdays going forward

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

An increase in applications for the many open lifeguard positions at the Mark C. Honeywell Pool means they will open for Memorial Day weekend as planned.

However, going forward, the pool will then only open on a limited basis, for the time being.

At a special Wabash Park Board meeting Wednesday, parks superintendent Adam Hall said he had received much more interest in recent days after putting out a call for additional lifeguards.

"With the help of the community we are starting to get a lot more feedback from people," said Hall. "That makes me feel better. Now it's just going to be getting them to the Y to get them certified."

Hall said Wabash County YMCA director of Amy Johnson was in the process of organizing classes, which they hope to finish with by early June, depending on how many people sign up.

"That's the positive," said Hall. "The community has responded in a good way."

Hall said in the meantime, he was working to get those who were not certified to run the slide and the front window at the pool to help ease the staffing burden somewhat.

"That takes our lifeguards out of that part of the rotation," said Hall.

See POOL, page A3

Paxton Media Group purchases Landmark Community Newspapers LLC

Deal was finalized this week; includes all 46 newspapers in the chain

STAFF REPORT

Paxton Media Group, the owner of the Wabash Plain Dealer, announced Tuesday the purchase of Landmark Community Newspapers LLC, a chain of daily and weekly newspapers based in Shelbyville, Kentucky.

The deal, which was finalized this week, includes the purchase of all 46 newspapers in the Landmark chain.

"We are very excited to

add these newspapers into the PMG portfolio," said Jamie Paxton, PMG president and CEO. "PMG believes strongly in the value of local newspapers and the vital role they play in the communities that they serve. We appreciate Landmark choosing us to be the new stewards of these important community assets."

Landmark Community Newspapers traces its roots to 1966 when a group of eight local newspaper pub-

lishers decided to pool their resources and purchase a printing plant. The company was incorporated as Newspapers Inc. two years later in 1968. Newspapers Inc. was then purchased by Landmark Communications Inc. in 1973.

Landmark's publications are in Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, New Mexico, Florida, Tennessee, Indiana and Iowa.

PMG will officially take over operations in early June, but there will be a transition period to PMG regarding systems and procedures, Paxton said.

Vaccine hesitancy still high in rural areas, including locally

Only about one-third of eligible Wabash residents have received shots

By ROB BURGESS
Wabash Plain Dealer Editor

Even as other, more populated parts of the state have seen the majority of those eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine get their shots, rural areas, including Wabash County, have struggled to catch up.

As of Friday, a total of 5,125,851 doses have been administered in Indiana.

This includes 2,633,546 first doses and 2,492,305 individuals who are fully vaccinated. The fully vaccinated number represents individuals who have received a second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines and those who received the single Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

According to the Indiana

See VACCINES, page A3

Gov. Holcomb keeping school mask mandate through June

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana’s mask mandate for those inside schools will last for another month as the governor has issued a new extension of the statewide COVID-19 public health emergency.

The executive order signed Friday by Gov. Eric Holcomb ends the indoor mask requirement for students and K-12 school workers on June 30. The order says it will be up to local school boards to decide whether to adopt mask rules

or other restrictions for the upcoming school year.

Holcomb ended the statewide mask mandate in early April while keeping mask requirements in place for schools and state buildings.

The new order taking effect Tuesday lifts mask requirements for state buildings, except for prisons, state hospitals, the Indiana Veterans Home and the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. Masks will also remain required inside COVID testing

and vaccination clinics.

Holcomb signed his 15th renewal of the statewide public health emergency that was first issued in March 2020. It now runs until July 1.

In that time, the state health department has recorded nearly 13,600 coronavirus-related deaths. The health department has added 48 deaths to that toll over the past week. Indiana hospitals, meanwhile, have reported treating between 750 and 800 coronavirus patients a day in the past week.

CHOIR

From page A1

in high school. She has been an active cheerleader earning an MVP award and named a three-time All-American Cheerleader.

Lyndzy Silvers, a sophomore, is the daughter of Doyle Silvers and Janet Hixson. This is her first year in the ASHC. She has been a member of Southwood High School choirs and band for two years. She was also selected for the Wabash County honor choir for two years and the county honor band for one year in high school. She earned gold medals for vocal solos and ensembles at the ISSMA vocal solo and ensemble district and state

contests. She participated in Regional Honor Band in 2018 and 2019 and ISSMA instrumental contest for two years.

Cage DuBois, a senior, is the son of Karin and Tommy DuBois. This is his first year in the ASHC. He has been a member of Southwood high school choirs for four years and band for several years. He was also selected for the Wabash County Honor Choir for four years and has earned gold medals each of his four years at the ISSMA vocal solo and ensemble district and state contests with vocal solos. He has also been active in theater productions for six years. He hopes to pursue a career in filmmaking.

Isaac King, a senior, is the son of Robin and Stacy Co-

per. This is his first year to audition for the ASHC. He has been a member of Southwood high school choirs for four years. He was selected for the Wabash County Honor Choir for four years in high school, participated two years in the ISSMA vocal solo and ensemble contests and earned a gold medal for his vocal solo at the district and state contests this year. Isaac has also been successful in football and wrestling earning Southwood’s most outstanding wrestler award for two years and earned All State Wrestling Academic Honorable Mention for two years.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplaindealer.com.

PULSE

From page A1

starting Tuesday, June 8 in the welding lab at Heartland Career Center located at 79 S. 200 West. Classes will take place from 4 to 8 p.m. every Tuesday and Wednesday through Wednesday, Aug. 11. The deadline for registration is Monday, May 31. The application for scholarships and more information can be found on the Grow Wabash County’s website at www.growwabashcounty.com/trainingopportunities. Those interested in registering for the upcoming welding certification course can do so by emailing Heather Vance at hvance6@ivytech.edu or calling 260-355-9462.

Salamonie and Mississinewa lakes to hold free fishing derbies

Children ages 2 to 14 and their adults are invited to Free Fishing Derbies at Salamonie and Mississinewa lakes on Saturday, June 5, which is an Indiana Free Fishing Day for all state residents. Youth age categories are 2 to 5; 6 to 10; and 11 to 14, with first-, second- and third-prize winners for the largest fish in each age category. Sign-in begins at 8:30 a.m. Rules and regulations will be announced at that time. Youth fishing time will be 9 to 10:30 a.m. An Adult Fishing Contest will be held from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Awards will follow. Children and their adults must be present to win awards. Advance registration is requested by calling 260-468-2127.



SIGN UP FOR HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY'S AGBIOSCIENCE ACADEMY!

Who: High School Students
When: June 7-11 OR June 21-25
Where: Huntington University

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HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY






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5-Day Weather Summary

 Saturday Few Showers 57 / 43	 Sunday Mostly Sunny 67 / 44	 Monday Mostly Cloudy 66 / 56	 Tuesday Chance T-storms 77 / 59	 Wednesday Scattered T-storms 76 / 60
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Sun and Moon

Today's sunset 9:02 p.m.
Tomorrow's sunrise 6:18 a.m.

 Last 6/2	 New 6/10	 First 6/17	 Full 6/24
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Detailed Local Outlook

Today we will see cloudy skies with a 45% chance of showers, high temperature of 57°, humidity of 66%. North wind 15 mph. Expect partly cloudy skies tonight with a slight chance of showers, overnight low of 43°. North wind 6 to 14 mph. The wind chill for tonight could reach 41°.

IN BRIEF

Woman's Clubhouse to hold June luncheon

The Woman’s Clubhouse will welcome Dan Johns, director of the Dan Quayle Museum in Huntington, for their monthly luncheon at noon Tuesday, June 8, according to Ellen Stouffer.

Johns will speak on flags of the United States.

“Wear your red white and blue,” said Stouffer.

Make reservations by phone with Mary Delauter by calling 260-563-6613 or Carol McDonald at 260-563-2331.

Brett Williams, of Lagro, named to SNHU Dean's List

Brett Williams, of Lagro, has been named to Southern New Hampshire University’s (SNHU) Winter 2021 Dean’s List, according to a press release.

The winter term runs from January to May.

Full-time students who have earned a minimum grade-point average of 3.500 to

3.699 are named to the Dean’s List. Full-time status is achieved by earning 12 credits; undergraduate day students must earn 12 credits in the fall or spring semester, and online students must earn 12 credits in either EW1 and EW2, EW3 and EW4, or EW5 and EW6.

Local Trine University students complete degrees

Trine University students completed requirements to earn their degrees at the end of the Spring 2021 semester, according to a press release.

The following local students completed degrees at Trine:

- Cody Gatchel, of Wabash, associate general studies.
- Ryan Lotz, of Urbana, design engineering technology.
- Beatrice Snively, of North Manchester, psychology.
- Cal Stone, of Wabash, education studies.
- Peyton Wilson, of La Fontaine, accounting.

The power of foster care

May is National Foster Care Month, and a big concept for anyone who knows anything about foster care is reunification. Reuniting a child with their birth parents or parent is a beautiful thought and a positive goal, when it’s possible. The organization Safe Families is all about people (of faith, typically) stepping in and helping a family out

Kathryn Lopez



for a short term. This is a relationship that is not adoption-minded, but simply about keeping a family together.

The foster care system is another story. Here, reunification reigns, to a fault. I held in my arms recently a baby who was taken in and loved by a temporary foster family. But the fate of this boy who needs a forever family is going to be unclear for a long time. While it is, of course, often preferable for a child to be raised by their birthparents, sometimes that isn’t possible. Drug abuse wrecks lives, people are imperfect and staying together is hard, especially in a world that seems to offer so little support.

Sarah Zagorski, now 31, was once a child in the foster care system. She spent time with a loving couple, but for the sake of reunification, was sent back to her mother and siblings to survive by eating insects off the floor. Her mother wanted to provide for her, but poverty, abuse and mental illness made it impossible.

Zagorski recently wrote about her past for the first time, calling her situation “a familial war zone.”

It took almost eight years for her adoptive parents to be able to give her safety and stability. Sarah was confused as a child, as it seemed no one truly loved her. “Why didn’t you come to get me?” she would later ask her adoptive mother.

Her foster parents, who became her parents, saved her life, she’s come to realize. One of her blood sisters overdosed on drugs and died. That could have been her, had she not been released from the prison of poverty, abuse and mental illness.

Zagorski is now an advocate for foster care and adoption, and a champion of foster parents. And so, she reflects: “My story didn’t end in drug addiction, exploitation or suicide because foster care provided me the support I would need for a lifetime.”

We live in a culture that celebrates individual autonomy, and in the shadows are all kinds of stories of the damage that kind of attitude can bring with it. Birth mothers in troubling circumstances who choose adoption for their children are heroines. We need to celebrate mothers who make that choice.

Darcy Olsen, president of the nonprofit Generation Justice, has seen in her own life the damage that meth addiction can do to a child who is returned to his birth mother; one of the children she has fostered over the years died in the process of reunification. Sometimes, reunification is the worst


possible outcome for a child, especially if serious drugs and abuse are involved.

We’re awaiting a Supreme Court decision that involves a travesty – Philadelphia’s decision to sever ties with Catholic Social Services there. The city wants Catholic principles about family to be thrown out. One of the fundamental things we are losing today is a robust pluralism. Even Catholic beliefs ought to be defended and welcome. And why wouldn’t they be when they provide a most-needed service?

More than 400,000 children are in foster care, and we don’t even fully know the impact that COVID-19 has had on children in vulnerable situations. The pandemic was difficult enough for those of us in the best of situations; how about the child in foster care, suffering a far more devastating pandemic of being separated from the love of a family?

We’re living in a time where differences about fundamentals – adult arguments that are not going to get resolved tomorrow or maybe in our lifetimes – are hurting the most at-risk children. The good of these children should be common ground for us. And that’s going to require more choices, not fewer. Children need better than we’re giving them.

Kathryn Jean Lopez is senior fellow at the National Review Institute, editor-at-large of National Review magazine and author of the new book “A Year With the Mystics: Visionary Wisdom for Daily Living.” She is also chair of Cardinal Dolan’s pro-life commission in New York. She can be contacted at klopez@nationalreview.com.



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Obituaries

Conner Douglas DeWitt

May 20, 2021 – May 23, 2021

Conner Douglas DeWitt, 3 day old and son of Travis D. and Kari R. (Shannon) DeWitt of Morgantown, IN passed away Sunday May 23, 2021



surrounded by his loving family.

He was born May 20, 2021 at Franciscan Health in Indianapolis, IN.

Survivors include his parents Travis D. and Kari R. (Shannon) DeWitt of Morgantown, IN, sister Brielle P. DeWitt, brothers Coy D. DeWitt, Luke M. DeWitt and Clayton A. DeWitt all at home, maternal grandparents Douglas and Susan (Reed) Shannon of Wabash, IN, paternal grandparents Harry and Karen (Daprile) DeWitt of Franklin, IN, great grandmother Shirley (Watkins) Daprile of Greenwood, IN, aunt Rachel and uncle Spencer Mitchell of Franklin, IN, aunt Rachael and uncle Chad McWhirt of Wabash, IN, aunt Erin and uncle Nate Bryant of Nineveh, IN and uncle Michael and aunt Kourtney Shannon of Indianapolis, IN

and cousins. He was preceded in death by his great grandparents John and Wilma (Koopman) DeWitt, Gus Daprile, Daniel Myron and Alice (Ladd) Shannon, George Kenneth and Margaret (Thompson) Reed.

Pastor Chris Franklin of Mt. Pleasant Christian Church in Greenwood will be conducting a private family service. Burial will be in Second Mt. Pleasant Cemetery in Franklin, IN.

Memorial contributions may be made in Conner's memory at: <https://franciscanallianceorg11745.thankyou4caring.org/central-indiana-giving?amount=undefined&program=Memories-to-Hold-Program>

Swartz Family Community Mortuary and Memorial Center 300 South U.S. 31 (Morton Street) in Franklin, IN is handling the arrangements.

Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.swartzmortuary.com. Information 317-738-0202.

Laura M. Judy

May 7, 1931 – May 25, 2021

Laura M. Judy, 90, North Manchester, died May 25, 2021. One of David and Annie (Buchle) Chisholm's three children, she was born in Jackson, Michigan on May 7, 1931.



Laura is survived by her husband, Leo Judy; son, Ronald (Krista) Durham; three grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and the many people who thought

of Laura as a mother, grandmother, and friend.

Visitation Monday, May 31, 2021 from 3-7 pm. at McKee Mortuary, 1401 State Road 114 West, North Manchester. Funeral services Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 11 a.m. with visitation at 10 am at McKee Mortuary.

Arrangements are entrusted to McKee Mortuary.

Gloria Jan Garber

Jan. 27, 1949 – May 27, 2021

Gloria Jan Garber, 72, of North Manchester, Indiana, died at 7:55 am, Thursday, May 27, 2021, at Timbercrest Healthcare Center in North Manchester. She was born on Jan. 27, 1949, in Marion, Indiana, to James K. and Helen Anne (Winger) Garber.



Gloria was a 1967 graduate of Manchester High School, received her Bachelors Degree in History from Manchester College in 1971. She was a member of the Manchester Church of the Brethren and participated in the women's Bible study group there. She was a voracious reader, a dedicated user of libraries, a longtime member of the Smithsonian Institution, and a formidable opponent in quiz games.

She is survived by her mother, Helen Anne (Winger) Garber; sister, Julie Garber, both of North Manchester, two sisters-in-law, Kathy Garber of North Manchester, and

Deborah Nelson of Minneapolis, Minnesota; and four nephews, Joel Garber of North Manchester, Joshua (Rose) Garber of Liberty Mills, Indiana, Samuel (Claire) Garber of Minneapolis, and Ezra (Candace) Garber of Boca Raton, Florida. She was preceded in death by her father, and two brothers, Christopher and Timothy Garber.

A memorial service will be held at a later date at the Manchester Church of the Brethren. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Bender Chapel, North Manchester.

The preferred memorial is the Manchester Church of the Brethren Peace and Justice Endowment at the Community Foundation. Gifts in memory of Gloria should be made out to the Community Foundation with "Peace and Justice Endowment" in the memo line.

The memorial guest book for Gloria may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

Mary Janet Combs, 87, left her earthly family on May 15, 2021, following an extended illness and is now reunited with her loving husband, John. Janet was born in St Louis, Missouri, to the late Clarence D. and L. Faye (Kincannon) Hunt. She was married to John E. Combs for 37 years before his passing on December 20, 2020.

Following high school graduation, Janet moved to Wabash and was a loving mother and homemaker to five sons and one daughter before working at DataVue/Swingline in Shipping and Receiving.

Janet was an avid sports fan and enjoyed watching IndyCar, IU basketball, Indianapolis Colts, and Pacers



games regularly. She also enjoyed attending the birthdays and school events of her numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Her best days were when she could spoil a grandchild, or by giving a new mother and

baby encouraging words in a restaurant or store. She was a member of First Friends Church of Marion and enjoyed attending services until her declining health.

Survivors include her children, Stephen (Theresa) Baxter of Wabash, Jay Baxter of Indianapolis, Randal Baxter of Logansport, Gary Baxter of Waco, TX, Margaret "Peggy" (Joe) Esslinger of Converse, and Scott Baxter of Muncie; Michael Combs of Columbus, Terry (Steven) Swetman of Jonesboro, Steve (Shelley) Combs of Marion, Thomas Combs of Marion; many grandchildren and great-grandchildren; and four siblings.

She was also preceded in death by a grandson.

The family will receive visitors from 10:30 am to 11:30 am on Wednesday, June 2, 2021, at Needham-Storrey-Wampner Funeral Service, North Chapel, 1341 N. Baldwin Ave., Marion, IN.

Immediately following the time of visitation, a service to celebrate Janet's life will begin at 11:30 am. Burial will take place at Marion National Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Family Service Society, 101 S. Washington St., Marion, IN 46952.

Janet's family wishes to thank all her in-home caregivers and everyone at Apeiron Health for their care.

Memories may be shared online at www.nswcares.com.

Sharon Jo Kreps

Feb. 4, 1944 – May 22, 2021



Sharon Jo Kreps, 77, died May 22, 2021 at Peabody Retirement Community at the age of 77. She had pneumonia, but she also had several chronic

few years, Sharon learned resilience. With each move, she started at a school and made new friends. With each stage of life, she continued to collect new friends. She was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in her early 40s. As her symptoms worsened, she adapted. She and Dave moved to a one-story house, they installed ramps and she used a scooter to travel far and wide, always finding a way to be independent.

She pursued her passions vigorously. She became interested in Jewelry and card making. These were not solo endeavors, but opportunities to gather with others and remain connected.

Sharon died on May 22, 2021 at Peabody Retirement Community at the age of 77. She had pneumonia, but she also had several chronic

conditions and, her body was weary.

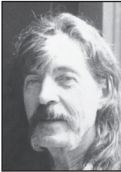
Her memory will be cherished by her husband of 56 years, David, with whom she shared many adventures and a very deep love as well as her sons, Brian (Dale Guenter) and Tim (Leanne) and grandchildren Libby and Andrew. She is survived by her sister, Carolyn Eichenauer (Calvin), nieces and nephews.

Arrangements have been made through Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, North Manchester. A memorial service will be held in the Fall. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made the Rev. Joseph and Mrs. Mildred Hanawalt Memorial Scholarship Fund at Manchester University by contacting the Donor Advancement Office at 260-982-5221.

Larry Lowell Houchin

Jan. 28, 1935 – May 20, 2021

Larry Lowell Houchin, 86, of Roann, Indiana, died 7:39 am, Thursday, May 20, 2021, at his home. He was born on Jan. 28, 1935, in Columbus, Ohio, to Bernard and Wanda (Wilson) Houchin.



Larry attended all of his school years in Columbus, Ohio. After high school he served in the US Coast Guard for four years. Most of that time was spent on an ice breaker ship in the Arctic, keeping her shipping lanes open. He later moved to Denver and Golden Colorado. Larry attended Art School in San Miguel De Allende in Mexico. He married Rachelle (Moss) Ayres in Warsaw, Indiana on July 24, 1984. He and Rachelle moved on Lukens Lake, and there he was able to spend the rest of his life doing what he loved, being a multi artist, specializing in jewelry, pottery, and painting.

chell of North Carolina, Jaxin Machiran of Venice, California, Lily Houchin and Bernard Houchin, both of Roann, Indiana, and his brother, Tom (Renate) Houchin of Texas. He was preceded in death by his parents.

There will be a private service on June 26, 2021. Arrangements by Grandstaff-Hentgen Funeral Service, Roann, Indiana.

Preferred memorial is Running Strong for American Indian Youth.

The memorial guest book for Larry may be signed at www.grandstaff-hentgen.com.

POOL

From page A1

Hall said that meant they had enough lifeguards already certified to open for this weekend, "and then close after Monday so we can reassess."

Hall said they had four certified lifeguards on hand, which is the minimum required on the deck area.

"It'll be a little bit of an interesting weekend, but we'll have enough to get it done safely," said Hall.

Hall said he would ideally have 14 certified lifeguards total in the rotation.

"What we typically do is a full lifeguard is five days on two days off," said Hall. "They stagger. Then we have work four days and off three days. And then we have subs."

Hall said he wanted to wait to sell pool passes for the summer until they could pin down the exact opening schedule for the rest of the season.

"It would be challenging to sell pool passes and then come back

and reimburse or prorate," said Hall. "We don't want to offer a family pass for \$70 and then not be able to be open."

Hall said he would let the board know about their opening plans after this weekend.

"The sooner we can open up the better, but it probably will not be until early June," said Hall.

The board then voted unanimously for the pool to be open from Saturday, May 29 to Monday, May 31.

The board then also voted unanimously to put a hold until further

notice on the sale of passes and the booking of parties until staffing is figured out.

Hall said after this weekend the plan was for the pool to be open Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays each week.

Hall said he would make the final call based on how many lifeguards are available.

For more information, visit www.wabashcountymca.org.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplainedealer.com.

VACCINES

From page A1

State Department of Health (ISDH) vaccine dashboard, a total of 45.7 percent of the state's population age 16 and over are fully vaccinated.

A zip-code-by-zip-code analysis shows there are wild swings on either side of this number depending on the part of the state, though.

For example, in zip code 46077 – which includes Zionsville, Indianapolis, Carmel and Westfield – 77.4 percent of those who are eligible have been vaccinated.

By contrast, in zip code 46992, which covers Wabash, only 33.6 percent of those who are eligible have been vaccinated.

On Friday, Parkview Wabash Hospital president Marilyn J. Custer-Mitchell said she didn't know "why rural areas have more hesitancy."

"Locally, we promoted the clinic several ways," said Custer-Mitchell. "Through Facebook posts and on local radio regularly."

ISDH media relations coordinator

Megan Wade-Taxter said they have stepped up their efforts statewide to meet the challenge of increasing vaccination rates in more rural areas.

"We continue to work with community partners around the state to provide education, outreach and access to vaccine in vulnerable and underserved communities," said Wade-Taxter. This effort includes engaging trusted community leaders to help share vaccine messaging to populations that may be hesitant. We have at least one vaccine clinic located in every county and are sending mobile vaccination units to underserved areas around the state to ensure equitable access to vaccine."

On Friday, the ISDH announced today that 571 additional Hoosiers have been diagnosed with COVID-19 through testing at state and private laboratories. That brings to 742,910 the number of Indiana residents now known to have had the novel coronavirus following corrections to the previous day's dashboard.

To date, 13,179 Hoosiers are confirmed to have died from COVID-19, an increase of 13 from the previous day. Another 416

probable deaths have been reported to date based on clinical diagnoses in patients for whom no positive test is on record.

A total of 3,493,567 unique individuals have been tested in Indiana, up from 3,490,024 on Thursday. A total of 10,410,165 tests, including repeat tests for unique individuals, have been reported to the state Department of Health since Feb. 26, 2020.

To find testing sites around the state, visit www.coronavirus.in.gov and click on the COVID-19 testing information link.

Hoosiers age 12 and older can receive a COVID-19 vaccine; individuals younger than age 18 are eligible for the Pfizer vaccine only. To find a vaccination clinic near you, visit <https://ourshot.in.gov> or call 211 if you do not have access to a computer or require assistance. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are accepted at most sites.

Appointments and walk-ups are welcome at the former Roosevelt High School in Gary, which is offering both the Johnson & Johnson and Pfizer vaccines. The Gary clinic is offering vaccinations from 9 a.m.

to 7 p.m. CDT at 2401 Harrison St., Gary, IN 46407 today and will operate from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. CDT on Saturday, the final day of the clinic. Free transportation to and from the site is available through the Gary Public Transportation Corporation (GPTC). Language interpretation and support for those with disabilities, hearing or vision impairments are also available onsite.

Mobile vaccination clinics are also available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at McMillen Park, 3901 Abbott St., Fort Wayne; and the Civil Rights Heritage Center, 1040 W. Washington St., South Bend.

Patients with an appointment at a state-hosted public vaccination site can get a free Uber or Lyft ride. Call 2-1-1 or (866) 211-9966 to receive a voucher to cover the cost of an Uber ride to and from your vaccination appointments. IU Health offers free Lyft rides to any vaccine site in the state. Call 888-IUHEALTH (888-484-3258) and choose option 9 if you need transportation to your vaccine appointment.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplainedealer.com.

TEACHER

From page A1

and willingness to work hard to give students a great opportunity," said McDaniel. "We appreciate Mrs. Bell's hard work to make SHS a better place."

On Friday, May 27, Bell said she was "deeply honored" to have been selected for the award.

"It is humbling to learn that your fellow teachers, administrators and staff hold you in such high esteem," said Bell.

Bell said she "greatly appreciated" Zay "for all of your help and support for education and educators" as a member of the Education and Career Development Committee.

Bell said during her years as a teacher she has "been influenced by wonderful teachers and professors."

"Dr. Pat Sellers, one of my favorite professors at Purdue University, willingly opened her home to me during a pandemic to help me prepare to teach geometry," said Bell.

Bell said she also wanted to recognize fellow SHS teachers Cathy Gohmann and Michelle Sparling for their "continued support and friendship" and Tammy Farlow, "whose patience and grace with students is a role model that I look up to and a teacher that I seek advice from in difficult situations."

Bell said her advice for new teachers was "to plan" and "don't hesitate to ask for advice on planning and classroom management."

"Teaching is a wonderful career and the rewards far outweigh those of many other occupations," said Bell.

Rob Burgess, Wabash Plain Dealer editor, may be reached by email at rburgess@wabashplainedealer.com.

Opinion

SPEAK UP

How to contact your legislators:

U.S. Sen. Todd Young, R-Ind.
B33 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
1-202-224-5623
http://young.senate.gov/contact

U.S. Sen. Mike Braun, R-Ind.
B85 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
202-224-4814
http://braun.senate.gov/

U.S. Rep. Jackie Walorski, R-District 2
419 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515
202-225-3915

State Sen. Andy Zay, R-District 17
Indiana Senate
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9467
Senator.Zay@iga.in.gov

State Rep. Craig Snow, R-District 18
Indiana House
200 W. Washington St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
1-800-382-9841
h18@in.gov

To email any Indiana lawmaker, go to this website: www.in.gov/cgi-bin/legislative/contact/contact.pl

LETTERS GUIDELINES

The Wabash Plain Dealer encourages your letters to the editor forum, which is designed to be a forum for exchange of ideas between readers about issues of community importance.

Please sign your letter. Your name will be used with the letter that is published in the Plain Dealer. Your letter will be returned if it is your desire to remain anonymous.

Since we may want to write or call you to verify the letter, we ask that you include your address and telephone number. All our letters to the editor are published in the interest of fair play, so we trust our letter writers will refrain from personal attacks on other persons or groups.

A letter should be less than two pages long, preferably of double-spaced typing.

In order to give everyone an opportunity to participate in this exchange of ideas, please try to limit your letters to one per month per household.

To submit a letter, please write the Wabash Plain Dealer at 99 W. Canal St., Wabash, IN 46992.

Letters also may be hand-delivered to the newspaper office, 99 W. Canal St. The office is open 9-11:30 a.m. and 1-4 p.m. Monday through Friday. If you should deliver a letter during non-business hours, a drop slot is located to the left of the front door. Letters may be faxed to 260-563-0816, or email them to news@wabashplainedeal.com with "Letters to the Editor" in the subject line.



DAILY SCRIPTURE

"Thus says the LORD of hosts, Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another, do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner, or the poor, and let none of you devise evil against another in your heart."

— Zechariah 7:9-10

Another victim of Floyd killing: Right to protest

On a night in mid-December 1773, a group of about 60 men who had disguised themselves as Native Americans boarded three merchant ships at a Boston wharf and dumped dozens of chests of imported tea into the cold dark waters – an act of civil disobedience that damaged private property in protest against government tax policies.

Conservatives these days hail that moment; in fact, a faction on the right a few years ago co-opted the name Tea Party as its own. Yet conservative state legislators across the country have been behaving less like the revolutionary rebels for whom they express admiration and more like British colonial overlords by introducing, and in some states passing, dozens of laws aimed at curtailing the fundamental right to public protest.

How counter-revolutionary. The murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer a year ago prompted waves of protests across the country, including here in Los Angeles. But Floyd's killing was hardly the first such outrageous act by government officials, and the Floyd protests were not the first outpouring of anger and opposition to such acts. In fact, the Black Lives Matter movement so feared and reviled by the right began with a hashtag campaign after George Zimmerman's 2013 acquittal in the death of Trayvon Martin.

It is in our national DNA to respond to the objectionable through

public protest. Street actions in the late 1950s and the 1960s spurred watershed changes in civil rights protections and helped bring an end to U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. Three decades of protests also helped change public awareness and national policy on nuclear energy and weapons. And don't forget the 1999 anti-World Trade Organization protests, or the Occupy Wall Street movement a decade ago.

But some conservative politicians don't like such protests. Since Donald J. Trump's election as president – which spurred massive protests by women around the world – 45 states have considered a total of 226 bills addressing free assembly and free speech rights, many of which would restrict public protests or reduce protections for protesters, according to the International Center for Not-for-Profit Law, which focuses on supporting civil societies. Of those, 18 states – primarily Republican-led ones in the South and Midwest – have enacted 34 bills; 64 measures are still pending.

Montana, North Dakota, Texas and several other states increased penalties for people protesting near oil or gas installations, fallout from the protests against the Keystone XL pipeline; the measures seem to be part of a national campaign by the conservative pro-industry American Legislative Exchange Council, which drafted model language for

the bills. North Dakota also made it a crime to wear a mask during a protest. Utah criminalized protests that disrupt public meetings. Florida made it so all protesters in groups of more than three can be held criminally liable if any of them damages property.

Anti-protest bills are of a piece with voter suppression efforts. They are attempts to shut off the political participation first of Black Americans, but also of anyone else moved to stand with them, or anyone who would stand against other actions that the government supports.

This is dangerous ground, no matter where on the political spectrum you may stand. Democracy is predicated on the free exchange of ideas and the ability of people to openly express support, opposition or even ambivalence regarding government actions.

Of course, the right to protest is not the right to rampage or block a highway or halt a pipeline or derail a public hearing. Yet we already have laws attending to those issues, and people engaged in civil disobedience anticipate that they will face arrests for their actions. It's a step they are willing to take.

Tellingly, the same Republicans who rail about violent protests last summer seem to have no problem at all with the protesters who stormed the U.S. Capitol and assaulted police officers in hopes of overturning the results of a presidential election. For

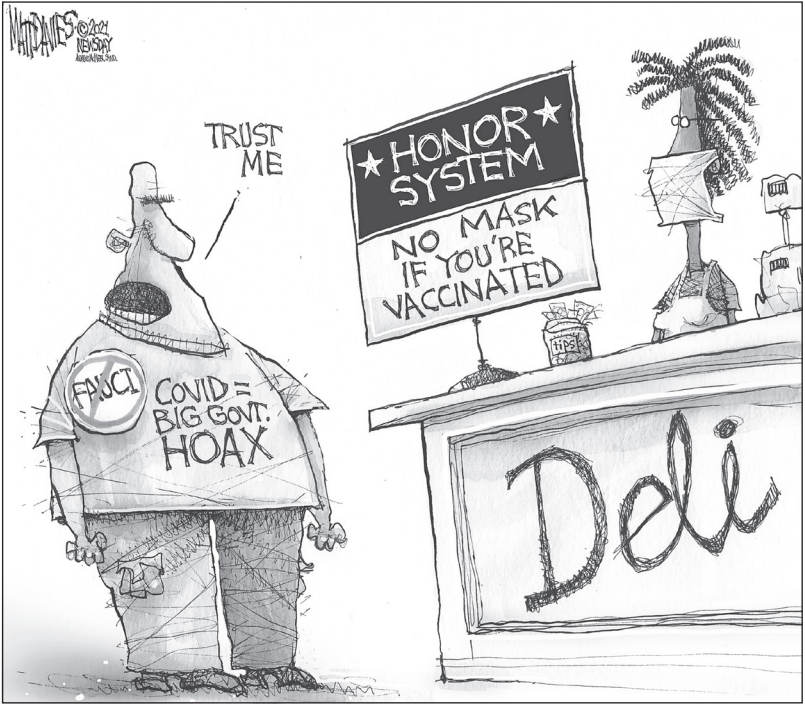
the record, had Trump's supporters on Jan. 6 marched from his rally on the Ellipse to the police lines at the Capitol steps to decry the certification of Joe Biden's victory, we would have defended their right to do so (while also blasting the lies they were espousing). But they didn't do that; an assault on the seat of government to usurp democracy is not protest but insurrection.

All the same, the indefensible acts of property destruction and violence by the few cannot be used as a mechanism to muzzle the many – regardless of the content of the message. That includes voices that express hatred, racism and intolerance.

The best counter to a Klan rally is widespread voices raised in condemnation. We disagree with those who deny the existence of white privilege in our society, but they certainly have a right to utter their bigotry – and those who recognize the echoes of history have a right to offer counterarguments, whether these take place in quiet conversations, the letters pages of this newspaper, or on the streets of cities coast to coast in a spontaneous movement decrying police violence.

Democracy can be contentious, loud and messy. That's the way ours began and the way it must continue. Elected officials in state capitals should not be allowed to undermine it.

This editorial was first published in the Los Angeles Times.



Hoosiers celebrate Memorial Day, honor veterans like no one else

For more than 100 years, the eyes of millions have been on Indiana each Memorial Day weekend. The Indianapolis 500 is not only the Greatest Spectacle in Racing but also one of the largest celebrations of our most cherished freedoms and the men and women who have served in uniform to protect them. This year, as we prepare to host the largest public gathering in the

U.S. since the pandemic, we have an opportunity to show the world how we honor our veterans in a manner befitting the sacrifices

they have made to keep us safe. Thanks to the guidance of Gov. Eric Holcomb and the continued work by our public health leaders and frontline healthcare workers, Indiana is once again at the front of the pack in our emergence from the pandemic. By balancing economic health and public health, our state has been well-positioned to safely transition back to normal or as close to normal as we will see soon. Less than two months ago, the national spotlight was on our state as we safely hosted the NCAA men's basketball championships here. We were successful then and we will succeed once more on Memorial Day weekend.

Indiana is a state of patriots. Ronald Reagan once said, "Veterans know better than anyone else

the price of freedom, for they've suffered the scars of war. We can offer them no better tribute than to protect what they have won for us. That is our duty. They have never let America down. We will not let them down."

In the end, our freedoms are never free. This Memorial Day, I encourage all Hoosiers to remember the sacrifices that millions of Americans and their families have made to make our holidays, traditions, and freedoms so special. Veterans, thank you for your service.

Lt. Gov. Suzanne Crouch constitutionally serves as the President of the Indiana Senate, statutorily serves as the Secretary of Agriculture and Rural Development, chairs the Indiana Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Task Force and oversees four state agencies.

Celebrate World No Tobacco Day on Monday

By DAN GRAY

Each year, the World Health Organization (WHO) holds World No Tobacco Day on Monday, May 31. Their goal is to spread awareness about the risks of tobacco use and how we can make the world tobacco-free. Roughly 6 million people die from tobacco-related ailments every year. And that number is projected to rise to over 8 million by 2030. But this is by no means a guarantee. The Sustainable Development Agenda aims to reduce deaths from noninfectious diseases by a third. Diseases linked to tobacco are on the list, so if we hit the target, 2030 will be a year to celebrate – not only for our health but the size of our wallets. Your average smoker drops around \$4,000 on cigarettes annually. Imagine all of the other cool holidays could be enjoyed with that money. So, let's use World No Tobacco Day as a launching pad to a brighter and less smoky future.

When the news came out

that smokers were more likely to develop severe disease with COVID-19 compared to non-smokers, it triggered millions of smokers to want to quit tobacco. But without adequate support, quitting can be incredibly challenging.

The nicotine found in tobacco is highly addictive and creates dependence. The behavioral and emotional ties to tobacco use – like having a cigarette with your coffee, craving tobacco, feelings of sadness or stress – make it hard to kick the habit.

With professional support and cessation services, tobacco users double their chances of quitting successfully.

Currently, over 70 percent of the 1.3 billion tobacco users worldwide lack access to the tools they need to quit successfully. This gap in access to cessation services is only further exacerbated in the last year as the health workforce has been mobilized to handle the pandemic.

That's why WHO launched a year-long campaign for World No Tobacco Day's – "Commit to

Quit" theme. The campaign aims to empower 100 million tobacco users to make a quit attempt by creating networks of support and increasing access to services proven to help tobacco users quit successfully.

Indiana has empowered tobacco users that are ready to quit by providing the state's free quitline – 800-QUIT-NOW. You can take advantage of this network by making that call. The service is also provided through texting or over the internet. If you call now for help, while supplies last, you can qualify for free 4 weeks of nicotine patches, gum, or lozenges. To receive help to walk you through the process or needing local support to quit, call Dan Gray at the Wabash County Tobacco Free Coalition office, 260-274-2920.

To truly help tobacco users quit, there needs to be supported with tried and tested policies and interventions to drive down the demand for tobacco. Hoosiers have that option.

Dan Gray is the director of the Wabash County Tobacco Free Coalition.

GOP state budget delivers sweeping wins for all Hoosiers

Indiana's next two-year, \$37 billion state budget accelerates opportunities for all Hoosiers – and in an unprecedented way. During the height of the worldwide pandemic, Indiana's fiscal health proved its resiliency and our economic future is brighter than ever before. During this legislative session, Indiana House

Todd Huston
House Speaker



Republicans hit the accelerator and worked hard to pay down debt while supporting jobs, economic development, K-12 education, public health, infrastructure and so much more.

This session's game-changing news came in April when the fiscal forecast increased revenue projections by \$2.4 billion over the next three years. Several factors fueled this strong outlook, including an increase in job opportunities,

higher consumer confidence, a successful vaccine rollout and an infusion of federal dollars into the economy. This forecast presented a golden opportunity to make strategic investments in Indiana's future.

Republicans delivered on our long-standing commitment to fiscal integrity and prioritized initiatives that help Hoosiers without growing government. The two-year budget pays down over \$1 billion in taxpayer-funded debt and pension obligations, including about \$600 million allocated to the pre-1996 teacher pension fund. We stuck to conservative principles by supporting proven programs that have a strong return on investment while setting our state up for future tax cuts and reforms.

We delivered on helping local small businesses and boosting economic development. We provided relief to our hardest-hit small businesses by investing \$60 million to expand the Hoosier Hospitality Small Business Restart Grant Program to help businesses recover from the pandemic. We also made a \$500 million investment in the Regional Economic Acceleration and Development Initiative (or READI) to encourage local governments to team up to make their communities, both large and small, a magnet for top talent and new jobs. We expect to see a significant ROI of at least \$2 billion in public, private and philanthropic match funding, but much more is anticipated.

Republicans delivered on supporting students and teachers. Spending on Indiana's K-12 schools represents half of the state's biennial budget, and we invested a historic \$1.9 billion in new money for K-12 education. The additional dollars made available to local schools exceeded the Next Level Teacher Compensation Commission's funding recommendations to make teacher pay more competitive. We also made significant investments to expand school choice. Now, more Hoosier families than ever before will be able to choose the best education that meets their child's needs.

We delivered on improving public health and boosting infrastructure investments. We restored mental health funding and appropriated an additional \$100 million for mental health grants to target the state's most pressing challenges. This budget also directs federal stimulus dollars toward Indiana's critical infrastructure, including \$250 million for broadband expansion and \$160 million for water infrastructure grants.

This historic budget delivers big wins for all Hoosiers. For over a decade, Republicans have stuck to conservative budgeting principles by paying down debt, saving for rainy days and refusing to spend beyond our means. Leadership matters and I'm excited about the promise of our state's future.

House Speaker Todd Huston, R-Fishers, represents District 37 in the Indiana House of Representatives.

LIFESTYLES



Photo by Lynda Balslev for TasteFood

Finger-licking goodness

There are so many reasons to celebrate right now. Summer is upon us, more of us are vaccinated, and we can all get outside and carefully socialize. Let this Memorial Day be the official kickoff of summer

Lynda Balslev



and the barbecue season. These ribs are finger-licking good with sweet and smoky flavor. A simple spice rub drives in more flavor to the meat, which gets a final baste and garnish with a smoky chipotle-laced barbecue sauce. You can simply rub the ribs before grilling and let them stand while you fire up your grill. But better yet, if you have the time, rub them the night before and refrigerate, uncovered, until 30 minutes

before grilling. This extra time will deeply season and slightly cure the meat, ensuring a crispy, flavorful exterior. Slow grilling is the name of the game when it comes to ribs. The hours spent cooking allow the meat to soften and tenderize, resulting in pull-apart goodness. Pour yourself a drink, pull up a garden chair and relax. It's almost summer.

Chipotle Glazed Baby Back Ribs

Active Time: 30 minutes
Total Time: 3 hours and 30 minutes, plus standing or refrigerating time
Yield: Serves 6 to 8

3 racks baby back pork ribs, each about 2 pounds

Rub:

1 tablespoon brown sugar
1 tablespoon sugar
1 tablespoon kosher salt

1/2 tablespoon chipotle chili powder
1/2 tablespoon ground cumin
1/2 tablespoon freshly ground black pepper

Sauce:

1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 small onion, finely chopped
3 garlic cloves, minced
1 1/3 cups ketchup
1/4 cup brown sugar
1/4 cup apple cider vinegar
2 chipotles in adobo sauce, minced with juices
2 tablespoons Dijon mustard
2 tablespoons soy sauce
2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce

Combine the rub ingredients in a bowl. Rub the ribs on all sides. Let stand at room temperature while you prepare the grill. (The ribs can be rubbed up to 24 hours in advance and refrigerated, uncovered. Remove from the refrigerator 30 minutes before grilling.) Make the sauce. Heat

the oil in a saucepan over medium heat. Add the onion and cook until soft, about 3 minutes. Add the garlic and cook until fragrant, about 1 minute. Add all of the remaining sauce ingredients and bring to a simmer. Cook over medium-low heat for about 10 minutes until slightly thickened. Cool to room temperature.

Prepare the grill for indirect cooking over low heat (250 to 275 degrees).

Cook the ribs, bone side down, over indirect heat until the meat is very tender, about 3 hours, turning occasionally to ensure even cooking. When the ribs are nearly done, lightly brush with some of the sauce.

Remove the ribs from the grill and cut between the bones (I prefer to cut two-bone pieces for serving). Lightly brush with the sauce and serve with the remaining sauce.

The tax system is built to favor wealthy whites, new book argues

Dorothy Brown thought the tax law was color-blind.

But decades of research proved otherwise. Now a professor of law at Emory University, Brown has written a book laying out how racism is built into the U.S. tax system and

Michelle Singletary



contributing to the wealth gap for Black people. “What people tend to say is, ‘Well, the tax laws can’t discriminate because there’s nothing in the tax law that says Blacks pay more, Whites pay less.’ And that’s true,” Brown said in an interview.

But if you look at how certain provisions got into the tax code, there’s a racialized history that has generally favored White Americans.

“Our tax laws were designed with White Americans in mind,” she writes. “That’s why no solution proposed by either the right or left – not better jobs, not increased homeownership, and not more access to higher education – will be effective without significant and fundamental tax reform.”

In the past, I’ve selected a personal finance book each month for the Color of Money Book Club. Last year, as the pandemic escalated, I suspended the feature to focus on providing much-needed information about stimulus payments and the glitches in getting the money to millions of Americans. Although I won’t be resuming a monthly book club selection, I’ll still, on occasion, review books related to consumer finance.

In my first selection for this year, I’m recommending Brown’s book, “The Whiteness of Wealth: How The Tax System Impoverishes Black Americans – And How We Can Fix It.”

Even though the Internal Revenue Service does not ask for a tax filer’s race or ethnicity, research shows that systemic racism – homeownership, employment, and education – is playing out in the taxes people pay or don’t pay.

In an interactive guide through the 1040 form, researchers for the nonpartisan Tax Policy Center also explained in a 2020 report the various ways in which the tax code contributes to racial inequities. Here’s how.

The capital gains tax rates overwhelming benefit wealthier White families. Workplace retirement plans such as a 401(k) are creating greater wealth for White employees because Black and Hispanic workers are less likely to have access to this tax-favorable benefit. Although they could invest for retirement on their own, studies show that workplace plans, often with the carrot of a matching contribution from an employer, increase participation.

And who has largely benefited from the home mortgage interest deduction and how home sales are taxed?

“Federal tax subsidies make things better for most White Americans, who’ve been reaping market and government rewards for more than half a century, and worse for most Black Americans, whom the market and government have already punished,” Brown writes. “While White home buyers no longer have a monopoly on receiving FHA subsidies,

they still benefit from the anti-Black preferences present in the real estate market.”

A married couple filing jointly can deduct mortgage interest on up to \$750,000 for a qualified residential loan. Then there’s the tax break people get when they sell their homes. Up to \$250,000 (or \$500,000 for married couples) of capital gains from the sale of principal residences can be tax-free if taxpayers meet certain conditions.

Here’s where the disparity comes in. Housing discrimination kept many Black families from owning homes. Homeownership rates for Blacks still pale in comparison to White homeowners. In the first quarter of 2021, homeownership for non-Hispanic Whites was nearly 74 percent, according to the Census Bureau. For Blacks, it was 45%.

“Between 1934 and 1962, 98 percent of FHA-insured loans went to White families, providing them a critical wealth-building foundation for future generations,” according to a 2020 Urban Institute report. The baked-in bias in the tax system delivers a greater tax break for many White sellers, and that is rooted in disparities for home appraisals for Black homeowners. Studies show that property values start to fall when Black presence in the neighborhood exceeds 10 percent, Brown writes.

As we talk about the disparity in home values and appraisals, Brown, knows what I’m going to ask next.

There are Whites who argue that the difference in appreciation isn’t about race, but about crime rates, I say.

“They say this, not realizing how racist that is,” she chides. “OK, so now you’re saying every Black person is a criminal. That’s your defense as to why it’s not about race. Really? So, the research says many White Americans don’t want to live around too many Black Americans.”

In July, an enhanced child tax credit will start delivering monthly payments to families. Biden has proposed increasing the capital gains tax. Brown’s analysis is an important addition to the conversation about closing the racial wealth gap through tax policy.

Brown wants the IRS to publish tax data by race to easily expose discriminatory tax policies. She advocates for a progressive income tax system with no exclusions. All income would be taxable. Americans would only get a living allowance deduction that would reduce or eliminate income taxes for people who earn less than a living wage based on their geographic region.

This book packs a powerful punch of historical context concluding with bold recommendations, which would face incredible opposition.

But as the saying goes, go big or go home.

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle.singletary@washpost.com. Follow her on Twitter (@SingletaryM) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/MichelleSingletary). Comments and questions are welcome, but due to the volume of mail, personal responses may not be possible. Please also note comments or questions may be used in a future column, with the writer’s name, unless a specific request to do otherwise is indicated.

VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON CHURCH SERVICES

Asbury Country Church

On Sunday, May 30 at Asbury Country Church, Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. and the worship service is at 10:30 a.m. The worship and music leader will be Amy Bullick and the piano will be by Roger Marine. The morning message will be, "Triple Blessings," by Pastor Mike Bullick.

Bachelor Creek Church of Christ

Online services are available by visiting www.bachelorcreek.com.

Christ United Methodist Church

On Sunday, May 30 worship service at Christ United Methodist Church, 477 N. Wabash St., is at 10 a.m. Pastor Tom Richards' scripture reading will be John 3:1-17 with a sermon reflection titled "Born Again." Worship service will also be live-streamed on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ChristUMCWabash/.

Christian Heritage Church

Streaming services online and broadcast on 95.9 FM.

College Corner Brethren Church

College Corner Brethren Church is now holding in-person services at 10:15 a.m. Sundays at 8996 S. 500 West, with Pastor Solomon David. The sermons are still on YouTube and Facebook.

Common Ground Prayer House

The Common Ground Prayer House will be open to the public from 8 to 10 a.m. Mondays, except holidays, at 78 W. Hill St. COVID-19 precautions will be taken in the form of masks being worn by prayer house representatives and social distancing. For more information, call Jennifer Mahan at 260-571-8063, Shirley Neale at 260-591-0047 or Debbie Sweet at

260-571-6072.

Dora Christian Church

For the Sunday, May 30 services at Dora Christian Church in Lagro the minister will be Mark Wisniewski, the song leader will be Olman Sanchez, the pianist will be Sherry Brock and the organist will be Kristy Good. We have two in-person Sunday services at 8:15 and 10:30 a.m., with Sunday school classes for all ages from 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Retired and disabled veteran and Elder Scott Hendry will be bringing a Memorial Day-themed message. The Communion Table will be served by Chuck Marion and Brad Frieden. There will be no Children's Church provided this Sunday as it is Family Sunday.

LaFontaine Christian Church

The LaFontaine Christian Church pre-records the sermon which is then available for all to view at www.lafontainechristian.com under the sermons tab, stated Pastor Brad Wright.

LaFontaine United Methodist Church

Pastor Susan Shambaugh says that her LaFontaine United Methodist Church is live-streaming on their Facebook page, <https://www.facebook.com/LaFontaine-United-Methodist-Church> and that it may be accessed as a video afterward.

Lincolnville United Methodist Church

Lincolnville United Methodist, 5848 E. 500 South, is going back to one worship service. The worship service is at 10 a.m., and Sunday school is at 9 a.m.

Living Faith Lutheran Church

Welcome to our in-person worship service at 10:10 a.m. Sundays at Living Faith Lutheran Church, 242 S. Huntington St. Bible study and

Sunday school are at 9 a.m. for all ages. The sanctuary is arranged for social distancing. Masks are encouraged and available. Online services are at 10:10 a.m., with pre-service music at 10 a.m. For virtual services and more information, visit www.livingfaithwabash.org.

Manchester Church of the Brethren

Pastor Kurt Borgmann from the Manchester Church of the Brethren stated they will hold a live-stream service at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday by visiting www.manchestercob.net. Scroll to the bottom of the home page and click on the black button that says, "Manchester CoB YouTube Channel." After the service is finished, one may access a video copy of the live stream in the same way. Another way to access the live stream or posted video: go to YouTube, search "Manchester Church of the Brethren," and click on the circle profile.

North Manchester Congregational Christian Church

Pastor Sebrina Cline stated live streaming begins on their Facebook page at 10 a.m. Sundays for the North Manchester Congregational Christian Church, and lasts 30 to 40 minutes.

North Manchester Missionary Church

The North Manchester Missionary Church is streaming live on their Facebook page at 10 a.m. Sunday. The video is then placed on their webpage, which can be viewed by visiting NMMC1.com.

Olive Branch Church of God

The Olive Branch Church of God live-streams Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. Find it through Facebook, by searching Olive Branch Church, or by visiting www.facebook.com/myolivebranchchurch or through the church website

www.olivebranch.church. Click "Live Streaming" at the top, then click the series icon (lion head).

Richvalley United Methodist Church

Worship at Richvalley United Methodist Church begins at 9:30 a.m. Sundays at 290 N. Jefferson St. Sunday school begins at 10:45 a.m. For more information, call 260-563-1033 or email rvumc@hotmail.com.

Southside Free Will Baptist

Streaming on their Facebook page.

Sweetwater Assembly of God

Streaming services online using the normal service schedule.

Urbana Yoke Parish

Rev. Larry Wade of the Urbana Yoke Parish stated that his congregation posts Sunday services to www.urbanayokeparish.com. Go to the menu line at the top of the page and select "Worship Videos." The most recent one will appear first. Sunday services are posted by noon every Tuesday.

Wabash Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

Welcome to Wabash Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), 110 West Hill St. In-person worship is at 9:30 a.m. Sunday mornings in the sanctuary or via live-stream for the church at home on the Wabash Chris-

tian YouTube Channel. Access is also available on our Facebook page and website wabashchristian.org. Stephen Eberhard is the transitional minister.

Wabash Church of the Brethren

The Wabash Church of the Brethren, 645 Bond St., moved into the second phase of their re-opening on Sunday, May 16, said administrative assistant Michelle Roudebush. During this phase of the re-opening, the church is requiring a mask while in the building and encouraging social distancing. Roudebush said they would be refraining from congregational singing. "We are planning to have fully vaccinated song leaders sharing during this phase," said Roudebush. Roudebush said they are encouraging people to visit with one another outside, after the service, as the weather permits and collecting offerings in the back of their building, in a marked box. Roudebush said they were planning to move into the third phase of their re-opening plans starting Sunday, June 6. These changes will include recommending but not requiring a face mask while in the building, continuing to encourage social distancing, returning to congregational singing and offering plates being passed again. Roudebush said during their second Sunday back open - Sunday, May 23 - they offered coffee and juice after the worship service near the tree outside their building, weather permitting. Roudebush said they wanted to ensure that those who still

sought a virtual option would have that available going forward. If you have questions or concerns about our plans for re-opening for in-person worship, please be in touch with Pastor Doug Veal. You may reach Veal at the church office, 260-563-5291, on his cell phone at 260-225-3014, or by email at pastordoug@wabashcob.org.

Wabash Church of the Nazarene

Pastor Kirk Johnson, of the Wabash Church of the Nazarene, stated their service is available on YouTube on Sundays at 10:30 a.m. Find it by going to YouTube and search for "Wabash Nazarene" or search Facebook for the Wabash Church of the Nazarene. Another option is to visit www.wabashnaz.com, look for the home page, and find "Latest Sermon."

Wabash First Church of God

At the 10:30 a.m. Sunday, May 30 worship service at Wabash First Church of God, 525 N. Miami St., Pastor Robb Rensberger will speak on "A Discerning Life - Part 1," 1 John 2:18-4:6. The sermon can also be seen on YouTube under Wabash 1st Church and heard on Sunday at 11 a.m. on 105.9 FM. While in the church building, masks are optional but we do practice social distancing. Sunday servants are Todd Eltzroth, chairperson; Sherry Whitt, worship; Rose Sands, piano; and Nancy Kolb, organ.

See CHURCH, page A8

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What you thought you knew

Trying to make sense of the constant barrage of conflicting information makes me weary. This week, it is the reversal by the resident experts on the origin of the COVID-19 virus. A year ago, concerns that the virus was developed in a lab were dismissed as a conspiracy theory. Now, an(other) investigation is being launched to try and determine the origin. Sometimes my wife will tell me something with which I disagree or simply dismiss outright. Later, I will say the same thing back to her, convinced of its veracity. She replies: “How come it sounds better when you say it? ...”

The single most important priority for you to know in this existence is God. Why should you think that? In the conflicting theories and recycled investigations about our origins, about the meaning of our lives, about what is good and evil, and about our eternal destiny, understanding God answers all of these. Over and over the writers of the Proverbs and Psalms share that they learned the fear of God is just the beginning of wisdom. The great irony is that we can spend our whole lives trying to know and still miss Him. Think about some of the mistakes we make.

One mistake is living off somebody else’s knowledge of God. In the book of Acts the account follows Paul and the disciples proclaiming the kingdom of God and Jesus Christ crucified, resurrected and risen, accompanied by acts of divine healing and also deliverance from demons. Acts 19:13-16 talks about seven sons of Sceva, Jewish brothers who were

casting out demons in the name of Paul and Jesus. We are not sure how successful they may have been, but it says in Acts 19:15 “One day the evil spirit answered them, ‘Jesus I know, and I know about Paul, but who are you?’” The man with a demon proceeds to beat the seven brothers to a bloody pulp. How much of your knowledge of God is based on somebody else’s theory, either for or against Him? And how much of your life and livelihood, and that of your family, are you staking on that theory? If you are at all like me, chances are that you know some good and godly people. Whether it’s your mother or father or brother or pastor, knowing them is not going to save you or anyone else.

A second mistake is thinking that it is about what we know, about how much knowledge we presume about God or the Bible, the universe and everything in it. The high priest and those in charge of the Jewish ruling council during Jesus’ time on earth were members of the Sadducees. Among other things, these folks were sure there is no such thing as resurrection, or angels and spirit beings, or much that we call supernatural. Do you know anyone like that? When they conspired to murder Jesus – think about that for a moment: conspiring to murder God in the flesh – they were sure that was the end of Him and His movement. They never imagined they would see Him again. Jesus told the Jewish leaders, (John 5:39) “You diligently study the Scriptures because you think that by them you possess eternal life. These are the Scriptures that testify about me.” I went from thinking I knew the answers, and then after I met Jesus, thinking I did not know enough to say anything to anyone. However

much information you think you know is not going to save you.

The Apostle John, who wrote to the church about his encounters with the Lord of all Creation, explained that the man they knew and touched and saw and heard and witnessed perform all the miracles over wind and weather, over demonic beings, over sickness and death, this Man came so that we could know Him. “We know also that the Son of God has come and has given us understanding, so that we may know him who is true. And we are in him who is true – even in his Son Jesus Christ. He is the true God and eternal life” (1 John 5:20 NIV).

Do you know God, as He reveals Himself? Do you know Him from His Word gathered in the Bible, not who I or anybody else thinks He is, but who He says He is, not being able to recall the words on the page, but being in relationship with the living Word of God who breathed them out so that we might know Him? Are you sensitive and listening for His voice and leading through prayer and worship? Are you experiencing Him through being part of His people, the church? Are you looking to find Him at work in you and around you? I pray that you would know Him who is life and life eternal. If you seek Him, that is something God promises you can know.

Rev. Todd Render is pastor of the Alliance Church in Wabash and a retired medical device engineer. He and his wife, Lori, relocated from Fort Wayne in 2016 and have three grown children. Render has an MS in mechanical engineering from Purdue University and a MA in ministry from Grace Theological Seminary. To start a conversation or make a comment, visit our website at www.wabashalliancechurch.com. We’d love to hear from you.

Rev. Todd Render



CHURCH

From page A6

Walk by Faith Community Church

At the Walk by Faith Community Church in Roann, Sunday school begins at 9 a.m. and the worship and children’s worship services begin at 10 a.m. The Walk by Faith Youth ministry meets at 5 p.m. every Sunday. For more information, visit www.walkbyfaithcommunitychurch.com.

Zion Lutheran Church of Wabash

Pastor Jerry Gauthier says that the Zion Lutheran Church of Wabash is streaming through their Facebook page at www.facebook/zionwabash at 10:30 a.m. Sundays.

Editor’s note: If you have an upcoming event to submit, please send it by email to news@wabashplaindealer.com no later than five days before the event itself. Please use complete sentences, Associated Press style and Microsoft Word or PDF file formats.

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Purdue plans vaccine cash drawing as Indiana University faces policy critics

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — While Indiana University faces political backlash over its plans to require proof of COVID-19 vaccinations for all students and employees, Purdue University is offering a chance at winning a full year’s tuition for students who get the shots.

Purdue’s “Old Golden Ticket” drawing makes students who submit proof of a COVID-19 vaccination by July 15 eligible for one of 10 prizes paying \$9,992. That is

the equivalent of a year’s undergraduate tuition.

Purdue has avoided criticism of its plans to require students and employees to either provide proof of vaccination for the fall semester or participate in frequent COVID-19 testing.

IU said Thursday it “will further consider our process for verifying the requirement” a day after the state attorney general issued a non-binding opinion that the policy was illegal under

a new state law banning the state or local governments from issuing or requiring vaccine passports.

Many Republican legislators have also come out against IU’s plan, with a letter signed by 35 GOP state senators calling it a “heavy-handed mandate.”

IU officials have defended the vaccine requirement as a way to safely resume full in-person classes and events on all its campuses across the state.

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OF THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP:
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LEE - DOB 5/26/2011
AND
SHANE ENIX (BIOLOGICAL FATHER)
DONNA M CLARK (BIOLOGICAL MOTHER)
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NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF PARENTAL
RIGHTS HEARING
TO: Shane Enix
Whereabouts unknown
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above noted parties that, as far as the parties are unknown, that the Indiana Department of Child Services has filed a Petition for Involuntary Termination of Parental Rights and that an adjudication hearing has been scheduled for 5/5/2021 at 10:00 AM. YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Wabash Circuit Court, 49 West Hill Street, Wabash, Indiana 46787, on 5/5/2021 at 10:00 AM to answer the Petition for Termination of Parental Rights. You are further notified that if the allegations in the Petition are true, and/or if you fail to appear at the hearing, the Court may terminate your parent-child relationship; and if the Court terminates your parent-child relationship, you will lose all powers, privileges, immunities, duties and obligations of a parent, including the right to custody, control, visitation, or support of the child. If the Court terminates your parent-child relationship, you may not contact or place of placement of said children. You are entitled to an attorney, provided by the State if applicable, to represent you in the proceedings to terminate the parent-child relationship. If you do not appear in person or by an attorney at the hearing, you will be deemed to have waived your right to be heard. If you do so, adjudication on said petition and termination of parental rights may be entered against you, in your absence.

Manchester softball players honored by HCAC

Seniors Torrence, Mokos both earn recognition

By DILLON BENDER

The Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference (HCAC) announced its 2021 Softball All-Conference teams and award winners on Tuesday, May 18.

Manchester had a pair of senior student-athletes garner recognition from the league office.

Centerfield Kendal Torrence, from Lowell, was named Second Team All-HCAC. Torrence had an outstanding senior campaign

for the Black and Gold, setting career-highs in batting average (.306), slugging percentage (.449), hits (30), runs (23), home runs (15) and RBI (15). Torrence played in all 32 games for the Spartans this spring.

Shortstop Alexis Mokos, from Cedar Lake and Hanover Central High School, picked up Honorable Mention All-HCAC honors from the league office. Mokos ranked fifth in the Heartland Collegiate Athletic Conference this season with a .437 batting average. Mokos set career-highs this spring in batting average, hits (45), doubles (13), on-base percentage (.464)

and slugging percentage (.621). Additionally, Mokos ends her Spartan career ranked in the program's all-time top 10 in batting average, doubles, and slugging percentage.

Dillon Bender is the sports information director for Manchester University.

RIGHT: Centerfield Kendal Torrence, from Lowell, was named Second Team All-HCAC. **FAR RIGHT:** Shortstop Alexis Mokos, from Cedar Lake and Hanover Central High School, picked up Honorable Mention All-HCAC honors from the league office.

Provided photos



Who's the boss? At the Indy 500, women play large role at IMS

By DAN GELSTON
Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — Simona de Silvestro was still in her helmet when her race team owner threw her arms around the driver who had just qualified for the Indianapolis 500 by the narrowest of margins.

De Silvestro's pony-tailed crew members stopped by to congratulate her, as did 2018 Indy 500 winner Will Power. Surviving the make-or-break seconds and break-neck speeds needed to make the 33-car field is cause enough for a celebration at Indy, especially after sweating out a 75-minute, five-car shootout for one of the final three spots in Sunday's race.

For the Swiss driver, her predominantly female team and owner Beth Paretta, leading an almost all-girls club to the starting grid for "The Greatest Spectacle in Racing," is exactly that — a start.



Mykal McEldowney / IndyStar / AP

Paretta Autosport driver Simona De Silvestro hugs team owner Beth Paretta on May 22 after qualifying for the Indianapolis 500.

De Silvestro, making her first Indy 500 appearance since 2015, is one of nine female drivers who have started the race. Sarah Fisher started nine times and Patrick eight — she finished third in 2009 — and the 2010, 2011 and 2013 races all had four women in the field.

Fisher transitioned to team ownership, then merged her team with Ed Carpenter Racing before getting out of IndyCar altogether. Patrick made a much publicized move to NASCAR after becoming a crossover star in IndyCar. She retired after the 2018 Indy 500.

Maude Yagle is the only female team-owner to win the Indy 500, in 1929 with driver Ray Keech.

The starts and competitive races have all had significant meaning in auto racing, where the playing field has long been dominated by men and legitimate chances to compete seem to come-and-go as fast as a lap around the oval. Paretta, who fielded a failed female-driven attempt to qualify for the 2016 Indy 500, is determined to prove women can look at motorsports as a career option.

"Hopefully it's resonated with people to be more than another team, another entry, trying our best," Paretta said. "We're trying to do a lot more and trying to provide opportunity and hopefully some inspiration, both for kids and for women everywhere to push and work hard to also know that anybody might be possible for yourself."

Paretta is the former motorsports director for SRT Motorsports/Fiat Chrysler Automobiles. Paretta Autosport is backed by Roger Penske in his push for diversity. Penske, the series owner, provides technical support for Paretta Autosport and the teams worked together at Penske's headquarters in North Carolina (Paretta called Team Penske training "the Harvard of pit schools").

Paretta has tried to hire women in all facets of the operation — competition, administration, logistics, marketing and public relations. And the blueprint fits as part of IndyCar's outreach to create more diversity in

135K fans: Indy 500 will be largest sports event of pandemic

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — The Indianapolis 500 is set to become the largest sporting event since the pandemic hit in early 2020 with a reduced-capacity sellout crowd of 135,000 expected to attend Sunday's race.

Indianapolis Motor Speedway worked with the Marion County Public Health Department to determine that 40 percent of venue capacity will be allowed. The speedway is the largest sporting facility in the world with more than 250,000 grandstand seats and the ability to host close to 400,000 on race day throughout the entire property.

Other large sporting events have included more than 73,000 fans at the bout earlier this month in Arlington, Texas, between Canelo Álvarez and Billy Joe Saunders and 78,000 for a cricket match last month in Melbourne, Australia. But the Indy 500 will dwarf those totals this weekend.

The track also decided to lift the local broadcast blackout and allow Central Indiana fans the chance to watch beginning at 11 a.m. EDT on NBC.

NBC averaged 3.67 million viewers and a 2.3 rating for last year's Indy 500, won by Takuma Sato in August when the race was moved away from Memorial Day weekend because of the pandemic and held without spectators for the first time in its 104 runnings. IMS also lifted its usual local blackout last year because spectators were not permitted.

The infield's raucous "Snake Pit" will be closed and all the traditional pre-race concerts will not be held, including on Friday's Carb Day. There will be suite seating and the Pagoda will be open to those with tickets, but the midway will be closed.

the sport.

"Although this is female forward, I want to make sure that everybody understands that this is with the support and help and guidance and mentorship from some very amazing and experienced men who have worked in racing for many years, who have been part of this process from the beginning and teaching some of our women that are new to IndyCar some of the ways of working around this car and working around this racetrack," Paretta said.

Lauren Sullivan, usually a wind tunnel test engineer for Penske's NASCAR teams, was asked if she would make the shift to help Paretta's team in the open-wheel series. Sullivan said she understood more was at stake Sunday than just pulling off a respectable finish.

"We're also very aware of our unique position to the next generation, the eyes that are on us, in particular the young ladies that are out there watching this unfold," she said. "We hope that by seeing us, you guys realize that we didn't do anything

extraordinary to be here. We are just like you, and so if you can see us, you can be us."

De Silverstro's over-the-wall crew on pit road, though, is mostly men provided by Penske.

"If we have zero women over the wall for the Indy 500 you'll see them at the next race," Paretta said. "Just the fact that you see this lineup and how far we've gotten in these four months, that's how I'm measuring our progress. Every time we can integrate and add one more woman in a key role, that's what we're going to get to."

Until another woman wins an IndyCar race, like Patrick did in Japan, or the first woman takes the checkered flag at Indianapolis, women landing the sponsorship needed to fund serious rides remains a problem.

There are no female drivers in the IndyCar developmental system and veterans like de Silvestro and Pippa Mann, who hasn't ruled out a comeback, are still the ones getting Indy opportunities.

Notre Dame can't contain Virginia, fall in ACC tourney

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Zack Gelof went 3 for 5 with five RBIs, Jake Gelof scored three runs, and No. 8 seed Virginia hit four homers in a 14-1 victory over top-seeded Notre Dame on Friday to advance to the ACC Tournament semifinals.

The Cavaliers (29-22), who will play Duke on Saturday, scored five runs in the second and ninth innings to help build a 14-0 lead.

Andrew Abbott (8-5) struck

out nine in 6 1/3 scoreless innings — becoming the second pitcher in Virginia history to reach 300 career strikeouts.

Zack Gelof and Nic Kent each hit their seventh home run of the season. Kent, Alex Tappen and Jake Gelof all homered in the second, and Zack Gelof's three-run shot came in the fifth for a 9-0 lead.

Notre Dame (31-10) put together nine hits, all singles. Danny Neri got the RBI and Brooks Coetzee went 3 for 4.

Tokyo Olympics looking more and more like fan-free event

By STEPHEN WADE
Associated Press

TOKYO — The president of the Tokyo Olympic organizing committee hinted Friday that even local fans may be barred from venues when the games open in just under two months.

Fans from abroad were ruled out months ago as being too risky during a pandemic.

The prospect of empty venues at the postponed Olympics became more likely when the Japanese government decided Friday to extend a state of emergency until June 20 as COVID-19 cases continue to put the medical system under strain.

The state of emergency was to have been lifted on Monday. The extension in Tokyo, Osaka and other prefectures raises even more questions if the Olympics can be held at all.

Organizers and the IOC are insistent they will go ahead despite polls in Japan showing 60-80 percent want them called off.

"We would like to make a decision as soon as possible (on fans), but after the state of emergency is lifted we will assess," organizing committee president Seiko Hashimoto said at her weekly briefing.

Hashimoto promised to decide on local fans by April, then put it off until early June. Now the deadline is within a month of the July 23 opening date.

"There are many people who are saying that for the Olympic Games we have to run without spectators, although other sports are accepting spectators," Hashimoto said. "So we need to keep that in mind. We need to avoid that the local medical services are affected. We need to take those things into consideration before agreeing on the spectator count."

Cancellation pressure grows daily on Tokyo and the IOC as more questions arise about the risks of bringing 15,000 Olympic and Paralympic athletes from more than 200 countries and territories into Japan, a country that has been largely closed off during the pandemic.

The IOC says more than

80 percent of athletes and staff staying in the Olympic Village on Tokyo Bay will be vaccinated. They are expected to remain largely in a bubble at the village and at venues.

In addition to athletes, tens of thousands of judges, officials, VIPs, media and broadcasters will also have to enter Japan.

Earlier this week, the New England Journal of Medicine said in a commentary: "We believe the IOC's determination to proceed with the Olympic Games is not informed by the best scientific evidence."

It questioned the IOC's so-called Playbooks, which spell out rules at the games for athletes, staff, media and others. The final edition will be published next month. Also this week, the Asahi Shimbun — the country's second-largest newspaper — said the Olympics should be canceled.

The British Medical Journal last month in an editorial also asked organizers to "reconsider" holding the Olympics in the middle of a pandemic.

On Thursday, the head of a small doctors' union in Japan warned that holding the Olympics could lead to the spread of variants of the coronavirus. He mentioned strains in India, Britain, South Africa and Brazil.

Japan has attributed about 12,500 deaths to COVID-19, a relatively small number that has gone up steadily in the last few months. The vaccination rollout began slowly in Japan, but has moved more quickly in the last few days. Vaccinated people are estimated at about 5 percent of the population.

The IOC, which often cites the World Health Organization as the source of much of its coronavirus information, has been steadfast in saying the games will happen. It receives about 75 percent of its income from selling broadcast rights, which is estimated to be \$2 billion-\$3 billion from Tokyo. That cashflow has been slowed by the postponement.


Japan itself has officially spent \$15.4 billion or organize the Olympics, and government audits suggest the figure is even higher.



Church Directory

ASSEMBLY OF GOD


Gospel Light Assembly of God, 347 Southwood Drive. Pastor Neil Jeffrey. Sunday School 9:45am (all ages). Morning worship service 10:30am. Evening service 6pm. Wednesday midweek service 7pm; Kids' Korral Wednesday 7pm. Youth meeting 7pm (ages 12-19).

 **Sweetwater Assembly of God**, 2551 SR 114 E, North Manchester. (260) 982-6179. Sunday worship 9am & 10:45am. Sunday evening outreach groups & youth ministry 5-7pm. Wednesday 6:30pm adult/teen bible study, 6:30pm Kidz Zone (K thru 6th grade). All worship services streaming online and on our Facebook page.


BAPTIST

Emmanuel Free Will Baptist, 129 Southwood Drive. Pastor Terry Hinds. (260) 563-3009. Sunday School 9:30am. Sunday Worship 10:30am & 6pm; Children's Church 10:30am. Wednesday morning prayer service 11am. Wednesday Prayer meeting 6pm. Transportation available. Sunday worship services streaming on our Facebook page

Southside Free Will Baptist, 360 Columbus Street. Pastor Tim Webb. Sunday School 10am. Worship Service 11am. Sunday Evening 6pm. Wednesday Evening 6pm. Sunday worship services streaming online

 **Wabash Free Will Baptist Church**, 1056 Erie Street. Wednesday evening prayer meeting 6pm. Sunday School 10am, Church 11am; evening service 6pm.

CATHOLIC

 **St. Bernard Catholic Church**, corner of Cass & Sinclair. Father Levi Nkwocha. Masses: Masses: Saturday 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m.; Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 5:30 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday at 8:15 a.m. Face masks and social distancing required.


 **St. Patrick's Catholic Church**, Main Street in Lagro, Welcomes You Back! New Service Time 11:00 AM Sunday, October 4, Sunday November 1 and Sunday December 6. In keeping with COVID-19 State Rules, please wear a mask and socially distance. Let Us Worship Together.

CHRISTIAN CHURCH

 **Christian Heritage Church**, 2776 River Road. (260) 569-7710. Pastor Tim Prater. Sunday 8:30am. Radio Ministry 95.9 WKUZ. Sunday School 9:30am. Morning Service 10:30am. Sunday evening 6pm. Wednesday evening 6pm. Online services on Sunday at 10:30 am and Wednesday 6:00 pm

LaFontaine Christian Church, 202 Bruner Pike, LaFontaine. Minister Brad Wright. (765) 981-2101. Worship 9am & 10:30am, Nursery & Jr. Church available. Online Services available on our website


CHURCH OF CHRIST

 **Church of Christ**, Wabash (corner of N Wabash Street and US 24). Evangelist Josh Fennell (260) 563-8234. Sunday School 9am. Morning Worship 10am. Evening Worship 6:30pm. Wednesday Service 7pm. Wednesday Kid's Jam 7pm.

CHURCH OF GOD

First Church of God, 525 N. Miami Street. Pastor Robert Rensberger. (260) 563-5346. Sunday School at 9:15am, for all ages. Continental breakfast at 10am. Sunday Morning Worship is at 10:30am. Nursery care is available during worship service. Stair lift available.


CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

 **Wabash Church of the Brethren**, 645 Bond Street (off Falls Avenue). Pastor Doug Veal. (260) 563-5291. Wherever you are on life's journey, come join us as we continue the work of Jesus... Peacefully, Simply, Together. Sunday School 9:30am. Worship 10:30am. Children's church and nursery available during worship. Online Service through website or conference call.

DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

 **Wabash Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)**, 110 W. Hill St., Wabash; Stephen Eberhard, Transitional minister; phone: 260-563-4179; website: www.wabashchristian.org. Worship Service 9:30 a.m.; Sunday School 10:45 a.m. Nursery provided. Find us on YouTube and Facebook. Services streaming on our website and Facebook.

FRIENDS CHURCH

 **Wabash Friends Church**, 3563 S State Rd 13. (260) 563-8452. Lead Pastor, Brandon Eaton. Join us for in-person worship at 8:30AM or 10:45AM, or via live-stream on Facebook at 10:45AM. Children's programming available infants - 6th grade. Sunday school for all ages at 9:45AM. Youth (7th-12th) Sunday evenings at 6:30PM.

INDEPENDENT CHRISTIAN CHURCH

 **Bachelor Creek Church of Christ**, 4 miles north of Wabash on St. Rd. 15; phone 260-563-4109; website: bachelorcreek.com; Worship Minister - Michael Eaton, Student Minister - David Diener, Children's Minister - Tyler Leland, Middle School & Small Groups Minister - Nate Plyler, Next Steps & Outreach Minister - Ryan Keim, Women's Director- Taylor McFarland, Early Childhood Director - Janet Legesse. Worship 9:15 a.m. & 10:45 a.m.


LUTHERAN

Living Faith Lutheran Church (NALC), 242 S. Huntington St., Wabash, IN. Worship begins each Sunday morning at 10:10 a.m. with Bible study classes for all ages at 9:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome to join us for worship. Worship Services live streamed on our website. www.LivingFaithWabash.org

Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA), 1500 S Wabash Street. Pastor Dr. Kent Young. (260) 563-6626. We worship our Lord each Sunday at 9:30am with Gospel-based message and Holy Communion. There is a time of fellowship and refreshments immediately following the service. We are handicap accessible and everyone is welcome at Trinity! tlcwabash@gmail.com.

UNITED METHODIST

 **North Manchester United Methodist Church**, 306 E Second Street, North Manchester. Pastor Steve Bahrt. (260) 982-7537. Worship Service 8:15am & 10:30am. Coffee Fellowship 9am. Sunday School 9:30am.

 **Richvalley United Methodist Church**, 290 N Jefferson. (260) 563-1033. Pastor Jack Suits. Worship service begins at 9:30am. Nursery available. Sunday School begins at 10:45am for all age.



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REMEMBRANCE



On Memorial Day we remember those who died while serving in our Armed Forces. They fought for the future of our country and experienced overwhelming and difficult circumstances. For many of us it is impossible to conceive of the price they paid for us. This Memorial Day, as you visit the gravesides of those who gave their lives in service, give thanks to God for their great gift.

Daily Scripture Readings						
Acts 7:44-8:3	Acts 8:4-25	Acts 8:26-40	Acts 26:1-32	Acts 27:1-38	Acts 27:39-28:15	Acts 28:16-31

Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society  Daily Devotional at DailyBible.AmericanBible.org
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